

## REPORT

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**SOURCE** Czechoslovak newspapers as indicated

FOREIGN CURRENCIES NOW USED  
TO PURCHASE EXPORT GOODS

AMNESTY TO HOLDERS OF FOREIGN CURRENCY -- Zemedelske Noviny, No 92, 20 Apr 49

The Czechoslovak National Bank has issued a new directive permitting the use of foreign currencies to purchase import goods in DAREX stores. US and Canadian dollars, British pounds, and Swiss, Belgian, and French francs may be used. Old gold may also be used, and no questions will be asked as to where the currencies were obtained. The usual foreign-currency registration will not be required if it is spent in this way at DAREX. No one's identity will be scrutinized when purchasing goods at DAREX.

In addition to the PAREX store on Vackravske Namesti in Prague there are outlets in Brno, Karlovy Vary, Pilsen, Bratislava, and Kosice.

Zemelske Noviny, No 91, 17 Apr 49

In addition to the currencies mentioned above, Israeli pounds, Dutch guilders, Norwegian, Danish, and Swedish crowns, Italian liras, Austrian schillings, Hungarian forints, and Argentine pesos will be accepted in DAREX outlets. All sorts of leather and textile goods may be bought, as well as machines, motor vehicles, and foods.

Lidova Demokracie, No 94, 22 Apr 49

In purchasing goods in DAREX outlets US and Canadian dollars and Swiss and Belgian francs are accepted at the full value of the official rate of exchange. If other currencies are used, the purchaser must present the currency and be granted permission to buy goods to the established amount. Thus, for example, a purchaser with one British pound will receive permission to buy goods worth 140 crowns. The difference between this amount and the official exchange rate of the pound, which is 201 crowns, will be paid directly to the purchaser in crowns. He therefore, receives 61 crowns in cash in addition to his permit to buy goods costing 140 crowns. The purchase values of other currencies are given below.

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STAT

<u>Foreign Currency</u>	<u>Value of Permit to Buy (crowns)</u>	<u>Amt Returned to Purchaser (crowns)</u>
1 British pound	140	61
1 Israeli pound	120	71
100 French francs	19	10
100 Dutch guilders	1,871	1,130
100 Danish crowns	1,038	710
100 Norse crowns	1,001	610
100 Swedish crowns	1,392	810
100 Italian liras	10.50	7
1 Turkish pound	13	10
100 Austrian schillings	490	160
100 Hungarian forints	432	120
/Number omitted/ Argentine Pesos	1,000	490

Permission to buy goods worth 32.50 crowns will be given for each gram of 14-carat gold, 42 crowns for 18-carat gold, 51.30 crowns for 22-carat gold, and 56 crowns per gram of pure gold.

Examples of the prices, in crowns, of goods in DAREX stores follow:

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Ladies' suit material, 3 meters	480	810
Men's suit material, 3 meters	780	1,400
Men's overcoat material, 3 meters	635	1,400
Findings for men's suits	350	
Poplin for men's shirts	45	80
Women's "perlon" stockings	98	
Aprons and tablecloth for six	280	1,200
Men's pajamas	350	500
Blanket set for two beds	1,080	1,650
Mattress covers for two beds	1,020	1,400
Bath towel	100	
Men's shirt	160	250
Food package	500	
Kilo gram of chocolate	80	100

SOVIET FLAX TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA -- Svobodne Slovo, No 84, 9 Apr 49

The Czech Linen Factories in Trutnov recently received a shipment of several carloads of flax from the USSR. Soviet flax spins well and is generally of very good quality.

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